

03040205-170

(Black Mingo Creek)

General Description

Watershed 03040205-170 is located in Williamsburg and Georgetown Counties and consists primarily of **Black Mingo Creek** and its tributaries from Indiantown Swamp to its confluence with the Black River. The watershed occupies 79,350 acres of the Lower Coastal Plain region of South Carolina. The predominant soil types consist of an association of the Yemassee-Yauhannah-Bladen-Emporia-Ogeechee series. The erodibility of the soil (K) averages 0.15; the slope of the terrain averages 1%, with a range of 0-2%. Land use/land cover in the watershed includes: 55.4% forested land, 17.0% agricultural land, 14.7% forested wetland (swamp), 12.2% scrub/shrub land, 0.5% nonforested wetland (marsh), 0.1% water, and 0.1% urban land.

This section of Black Mingo Creek accepts drainage from its upstream reach, together with Wilson Lake, Gully Branch, Headless Creek, Snow Branch, and Campbell Swamp (Hickory Nut Branch). Johnson Branch enters the system next, followed by Walden Branch, Poplar Hill Branch (Caney Branch, Waterman Branch, Hughs Branch), Rome Branch, Burnett Swamp, and Jacks Creek. Further downstream, Browns Branch (Squirrel Run, Church Branch, Pittman Branch) flows into Black Mingo Creek followed by Peters Creek, Smith Swamp (Black Steer Swamp, McGinney Creek), Cold Creek, Mingo Swamp, and Schoolhouse Branch. The Black Mingo Creek Watershed flows into the Black River. There are several lakes and ponds (totaling 165.9 acres) in this watershed and a total of 129.2 stream miles, all classified FW.

Water Quality

<u>Station #</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Description</u>
PD-360	W	FW	BLACK MINGO CREEK AT S-45-121
PD-361	S	FW	BLACK MINGO CREEK AT COWHEAD LANDING OFF SC 51

Black Mingo Creek - There are two monitoring sites along this section of Black Mingo Creek and recreational uses are fully supported at both sites. This is a blackwater system, characterized by naturally low pH and dissolved oxygen concentrations. At the upstream site (**PD-360**), aquatic life uses are not supported due to dissolved oxygen excursions. Although this is a blackwater system, the dissolved oxygen concentrations were inordinately low. Aquatic life uses are fully supported at the downstream site (**PD-361**). Although pH and dissolved oxygen excursions occurred, they were typical of values seen in blackwater systems and were considered natural, not standards violations. A significant decreasing trend in five-day biochemical oxygen demand suggests improving conditions for this parameter.

A fish consumption advisory has been issued by the Department for mercury and includes Black Mingo Creek within this watershed (see advisory p. 73).

Water Supply

Portions of this watershed fall within the Waccamaw Capacity Use Area and large groundwater uses must be reported (see Capacity Use Program p.23).

Growth Potential

There is a low potential for growth in this watershed, which is adjacent to the Town of Stuckey. Water infrastructure is available around Stuckey as well as the portion of the watershed located in Georgetown County.